

The Colored American

Published by THE COLORED AMERICAN Publishing Company.

A National Negro Newspaper

Published every Saturday at 459 C St. N. W. Washington, D. C.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

One Year	—	—	\$2.00
Six Months	—	—	1.10
Two Months	—	—	.60

INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

Subscriptions may be sent by post office money order, express or registered letter. All communications for publication should be accompanied with the name of the writer, not necessarily for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

We solicit news, contributions, opinions and in fact all matters affecting the race. We will not pay for matter, however unless it is ordered by us. All matter intended for publication must reach this office by Wednesday of each week to insure insertion in the current issue.

Agents are wanted everywhere. Send for instructions.

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Reading notices 50 cents per line. Display advertisements, \$2 per square inch per insertion. Discounts made on large contracts. Entered at the Post-office as second-class matter.

All letters, communications, and business matters should be addressed to

THE COLORED AMERICAN,

EDWARD E. COOPER, MANAGER

459 C Street Northwest.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Sold by all all News Dealers.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29 1902.

CAN'T FRIGHTEN THE PRESIDENT.

The absurd attempt of the lily-whites of the south to intimidate President Roosevelt will fail of its purpose. No threat of causing his defeat for the nomination in 1904 will force him to abandon the patriotic position he has taken in the matter recognizing the Negro allies of the Republican party on the same plane as any other element of the organization of which he is the official head. The party of Lincoln and Grant was founded upon the distinct proposition that all men were created free and stood upon an equal footing before the law. To abandon this fundamental principle and leave the doctrine of human rights for the flesh pots of commercialism would be to dismiss all claims upon the conscience of the redemption of mankind. The Republican party, in some respects, has strayed away from its time-honored obligations, but the logic of events and the few loyal spirits who remained true to the gospel of the fathers have combined to point out the error of its ways, and the return to the old mooring has been swift and positive. The mad chase after strange gods has been checked in timely fashion by the sober action of the party's most sagacious leaders, and a new era of robust and healthful politics has set in, to the good of all concerned.

The effort to establish a white Republican party in the South has resulted in the failure that it richly deserved, and the promoters of that un-American and unjust propaganda have been broken on the wheel. As a parting shot, they declare their intention to throw their strength into the President in the next national convention because of his outspoken antagonism to their nefarious schemes. They plan to place in nomination some one who they think will be "a white man's president," and permit them to go on undisturbed in their carnival of plunder and pretense of party organization with federal patronage as its basis. They will be sadly disappointed. The North and West and the solid against drawing the color line in politics for the benefit of a few freebooters and adventurers, and to the detriment of the party in the states that contribute votes to the electoral college. A majority of delegates nominated in a Republican Na-

tional convention, and the two hundred odd who will come up from the south cannot begin to overcome the great combination that will be counted as a unit for the strongest character that has sat in the executive chair since Lincoln.

Besides, where could the lily-whites find a candidate who would be willing to commit political suicide by standing upon such an outrageous platform as the exclusion of the Negro as a factor in the works and rewards of the party of freedom and civil rights for all Americans? Mr. Fairbanks would not think of such a thing. Mr. Hanna, Mr. Lodge, Mr. Allison, Mr. Foraker, Mr. Shaw and all others who might be considered as presidential timber, would be equally antagonistic to the basing of their campaigns upon such an impossible issue. If there is one argument stronger than another in favor of reducing the southern representation in Republican national conventions, it is this mischievous tendency on the part of certain unscrupulous political hacks to barter away the very foundations of the national organization to gratify personal animosities, which course, in a close contest, might foist upon the party at large a platform and a candidate that would carry the whole institution to a crushing defeat. The south is hopelessly Democratic, and the wise managers like General Clarkson, will not be deceived by the oily pretensions of the petty factions who seek personal advantage and the emoluments of office. They will not sacrifice the electoral votes made certain by the ballots of Negroes in New York, Indiana, Ohio and Illinois for the will-o'-the-wisp offered by the impotent lily-whites below the Mason and Dixon line.

The President has taken an impregnable position on this question. He is on solid ground, and he will not be frightened from his stronghold by either the malicious or the sycophantic fawning of Senator Pritchard and his ilk.

The race problem can be settled by a strict adherence to the constitution of the United States, the Declaration of Independence, the Golden Rule of the Holy Bible, either, any or all of them. They are founded upon the eternal principles of justice to all men, the immortal gospel of truth and righteousness.

THE CAPITAL SAVINGS BANK.

The temporary embarrassment of the Capital Savings bank comes as a surprise and shock to the friends of Negro enterprise everywhere. That a financial corporation which had successfully weathered the panic of 1893 should fall in the high tide of prosperity makes the situation all the more difficult to understand. It appears, however, that for some time there has been a quiet drain upon the resources of the bank and the reserve had become so low that rather than run further risk of the funds of the depositors or the company, it was decided best to close the doors of the institution for at least sixty days, at which time it is hoped that business can be safely resumed.

The managers of the Capital Savings bank are among the best citizens and are gentlemen of unimpeachable integrity. They have ample means to pay all obligations ten times over and the people who have entrusted funds to their keeping may rest assured that they will receive dollar for dollar.

Confidence is everything to the success of a business and we trust that important element can be resorted in time to guarantee a future for this corporation. Its destruction cannot fail to inflict injury upon every other concern operated by colored people.

Very recently the colored people who are in the Klondike region, with headquarters at Dawson, had made a large heavy solid gold ring, bearing the word "Yukon," in raised letters, and having the design of a full bunch of grapes on either side of the word and sent it with their compliments to Booker T. Washington, of the Tuskegee Institute, as an expression of their appreciation of his worth to the race. The ring is eighteen carat gold, and is said to be a work of real art.



JUDGE ASHLEY M. GOULD.

JUDGE GOULD.

The nomination of the Hon. Ashley M. Gould to the judgeship on the bench of the supreme court of the District of Columbia is gratifying to every element of Washington's cosmopolitan population. He is well-equipped as a master of law and possesses the requisite judicial temperament. Mr. Gould will be a tower of strength to the local supreme court and to the colored people his selection adds immeasurably to their confidence that the statutes will not only be impartially used to punish violators of the law but also to protect the humblest citizen in the enjoyment of his rights. We congratulate the District and ourselves as well upon the accession of Judge Gould.

The Virginia colored people do not sit simply by and allow themselves to be disfranchised without an effort to save themselves. They are making the governor and his fraudulent machine show cause why the recent election shall not be declared illegal, as it was held under conditions clearly unconstitutional. It will be so decided if the issue is squarely met by the courts.

THE DISTRICT RECORDER'S OFFICE.

Strong efforts should be made during this short session of Congress to induce that body to do something for the relief of the office of the Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia. What does it need? Everything! New furniture should be put in. Ample shelving should be provided. The old worn-out books should be recopied. The compensation of the copyists is inadequate. Under the "bundle system" they are paid by the piece, receiving one-third of the fee charged for placing the papers on record. To afford these workers a living wage they should be allowed one-half of the amount received, as the lapse between their periods of service is from three to five weeks. The office is more than self-supporting, and this raise could be granted the copying force without exhausting the surplus receipts, which go into the treasury. Recorder Dancy is anxious to inaugurate some much-needed reforms, and the people of the District, colored and white, should interest themselves in having Congress make the necessary appropriations to carry them into effect. Now is the time to move in the matter, and we should pull strongly for better conditions in this very important office.

The southern Negro who can benefit himself and family by moving into the north and west should not stand upon the order of going, but go at once. An exodus by the wholesale would be inadvisable, but a quiet, steady immigration to the land of equal rights would open a door to those who go, and improve the prospects of those who remain behind.

AS TO "REGULAR" DELEGATES.

It is boldly stated by some of the lily-white leaders that have control of

the party machinery in the several southern states, that they will elect their delegates to the next national convention and knock for admission as the "regular" representatives. The scheme will not work, not by a jug full, if General Clarkson is alive and well in 1904. The only "regulars" who will sit in that convention will be men who recognize the fundamental principles of Republicanism as laid down by Abraham Lincoln. Those who draw the color line will find themselves persona non grata under this administration.

Let the Louisiana people fight to annul the constitutionality of the separate seat law in the street cars. The statute is a piece of hypocrisy, the outgrowth of an artificial social system. The white people do not wish to be very widely separated from the Negro as all of us will readily concede. Let them fight the thing out. When corporations and the law-makers get through pummeling each other the black people will find out that they will enjoy some benefits therefrom.

The absurd conard about Miss Portig Washington leaving Willesley college on account of color discrimination or failure in her studies has been knocked in the head by a straightforward letter of explanation and denial from Dr. Washington himself. The author of such an attack upon a female member of a family because of differences with a parent cannot be appropriately characterized in terms suitable for publication in a paper which aims to be acceptable to the home and fireside.

President Roosevelt is not given to making mistakes, and he thoroughly understands the public pulse. Knowing the unpopularity of one Peter C. Pritchard, it is improbable that the President will fly into the faces of his colored allies by naming the said Pritchard as a federal judge, a recognition he is seeking. The President can find excellent timber in North Carolina without galvanizing political corpses by even the shadow of an endorsement. Pritchard has forfeited all claim upon the support of loyal Republicans.

Senator John T. Morgan is too smart a man to allow his name to go down in history as too narrow to meet the race question as intelligently as he would the canal issue or the tariff. He flies off at a target and furiously exclaims that "the Democratic party always was and always will be distinctively a white man's party!" This will be new to Mr. Grover Cleveland, who divided some nice far parcels of patronage among his colored friends. Senator Morgan is unjust to his own fame in placing American citizenship and party alignment on so low a plane as to be governed by color considerations.

With the approach of the general conference of the A. M. E. Zion church, interest in the election of general officers increases. The probable election of Rev. J. W. Smith to the Bishopric is creating a lively race for the editorship of The Star of Zion, the place now filled by him. A favorite is Rev. B. J. Bolding, whose commanding ability as a financier and litterateur has been admirably demonstrated by his labors in this city as pastor at the John Wesley A. M. E. Zion church, and as editor of the Warwick Christian Endeavorer. He would be a strong man at the helm of Zion's leading organ.

NOT GIVEN BY MISS FLAGLER.

A report went out broadcast that the trousseau of Mrs. Marion Green Payne who was recently married to Mr. Andrew J. Payne, was the gift of Miss Elizabeth Flagler, who some years ago shot and killed the small brother of Mrs. Payne. Mr. Richard Green, the father of the bride, desires it known that the statement is untrue as to Miss Flagler, and that the trousseau was given by himself. Miss Flagler was not even invited to the wedding.

Editor E. E. Cooper has returned from a three-weeks' jaunt through the